

MASSAGE THERAPISTS

CHAPTER 130
MASSAGE THERAPISTS

645—130.1(152C) Definitions. For the purpose of these rules, the following definitions apply:

“*Board*” means the board of examiners for massage therapy.

“*Department*” means the department of public health.

“*Massage therapist*” means a person licensed to practice the health care service of the healing art of massage therapy.

“*Massage therapy*” means performance for compensation of massage, myotherapy, massotherapy, bodywork, bodywork therapy, superficial hot and cold applications, vibration and topical applications, or other therapy which involves manipulation of the muscle and connective tissue of the body, excluding osseous tissue, to treat the muscle tonus system for the purpose of enhancing health, providing muscle relaxation, increasing range of motion, reducing stress, relieving pain, or improving circulation.

“*Reciprocal license*,” for the purposes of this chapter, means that an applicant has been licensed under laws of another jurisdiction and has applied for a license from the state of Iowa.

645—130.2(152C) Description and organization of the board.

130.2(1) The board is composed of seven persons appointed by the governor as follows:

- a. Four members shall be massage therapists.
- b. Three members who are not licensed massage therapists shall be representatives of the general public.

130.2(2) The board shall have the duties and responsibilities as outlined in Iowa Code chapters 130, 272C, 17A, 21, 22, 68B, and section 69.15.

130.2(3) Organization. Annually, the board shall elect a chairperson, vice-chairperson and secretary and establish standing committees as needed from its membership.

130.2(4) Meetings. The board shall:

a. Hold special meetings called by the chairperson or upon the request by four members of the board to the chairperson or board administrator. Special meetings may be held by electronic means in accordance with Iowa Code section 21.8.

b. Make available to the public the date, time, and location of board meetings. Specific information may be obtained from the Board Administrator, Professional Licensure Division, Department of Public Health, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0075.

c. Make available to the public the date that board materials are due in the board office for the agenda of regularly scheduled meetings. Materials received two weeks prior to a scheduled board meeting shall be placed on the agenda. Materials from emergency or unusual circumstances may be added to the agenda with the chairperson’s approval.

d. Hold meetings that are open to the public.

(1) Anyone who has submitted materials for the agenda or who has requested to be present shall be given the opportunity to address the board.

(2) At every regularly scheduled board meeting, time shall be designated for public comment.

(3) Anyone who has not asked to address the board during public comment may be recognized by the chairperson. Acknowledgment and an opportunity to speak shall be at the discretion of the chairperson.

e. Conduct meetings following Robert’s Rules of Order.

f. Conduct business only if a quorum is present. A majority of this board shall constitute a quorum.

645—130.3(152C) Availability of forms. Copies of all forms and information may be obtained by writing to the Iowa Board of Massage Therapy Examiners, Department of Public Health, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0075.

645—130.4(152C) Requirements for licensure. All persons acting or serving in the capacity of a massage therapist shall hold a massage therapist's license issued by the board.

130.4(1) All applications must be made on forms supplied by the Massage Therapy Office, Professional Licensure Division, Department of Public Health, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0075.

130.4(2) Application requirements are as follows:

a. Initial licensure. Applicants shall submit all of the following:

- (1) A completed application form and the certificate of diploma from a board-approved school;
- (2) The required license fee as stated in rule 130.7(152C);
- (3) An official transcript sent directly from the school(s) to the board office; and
- (4) Proof of passing the National Certification Examination for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork administered by the testing service contracting with the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork. Proof of passing must be sent directly from the testing service to the division of professional licensure. The passing score on the written examination shall be the passing point criterion established by the national testing authority at the time the test was administered.

b. Licensure of a licensee from another state. A licensee from another state seeking a license to practice massage therapy in Iowa will be considered on an individual basis. The applicant shall submit:

- (1) An official copy of the license with the application;
- (2) Verification of the license to practice massage therapy issued by the other state(s);
- (3) A statement from the licensing board(s) of the other state(s) outlining the licensure requirements of that state;
- (4) A certified copy of scores from the appropriate professional examination to be sent to the board, if applicable; and
- (5) The required fee as stated in rule 130.7(152C).

c. Temporary licensure of a licensee from another state. A licensee from another state with license requirements less stringent than those of Iowa shall submit:

- (1) An official copy of the license with the application;
- (2) Verification of the license to practice massage therapy issued by the other state(s);
- (3) A statement from the licensing board(s) of the other state(s) outlining the licensure requirements of that state;
- (4) A certified copy of scores from the appropriate professional examination to be sent to the board, if applicable;
- (5) The required fee as stated in rule 130.7(152C).

The individual shall receive a temporary license that shall be valid for a period of up to one year and may not be renewed.

d. The board may consider applications on a case-by-case basis which do not appear on their face to meet requirements if the requirements may be alternatively satisfied by demonstrated equivalency. The burden shall be on the applicant to document that the applicant's education and experience are substantially equivalent to the requirements which may be alternatively satisfied.

645—130.5(152C) Requirements for approval of massage therapy education curriculum.

130.5(1) An application for schools providing massage therapy education curriculum shall be made in writing to the Massage Therapy Office, Professional Licensure Division, Iowa Department of Public Health, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0075. Application forms shall be obtained from the office. A request for massage therapy education curriculum approval may be made by an applicant for a license who has graduated from the school or by the management of the school.

130.5(2) Approval may be granted by the board if the curriculum satisfies the following:

a. It requires completion of at least 500 hours of instructor-supervised, in-classroom academic instruction. The curriculum must include 100 hours of anatomy and physiology and 400 hours of other subjects relating directly to the development of skills, knowledge and attitudes necessary to render competent professional massage therapy to the public including basic first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

b. Student clinic hours shall be at the school site, shall be supervised by a qualified instructor and shall not exceed 20 percent of the actual curriculum hours.

c. Field experience hours, if required by the school, shall be documented, but may not be included as part of the 500 hours of instructor-supervised, in-classroom academic instruction.

d. All course instructors must be listed in an attachment to the application, along with their credentials, professional training and proof of at least one year's experience in the subject they are to teach.

e. The entire school curriculum and class schedule must be submitted with the application and shall document the hours of each subject taught. The curriculum required for students who graduated prior to July 1, 1993, will require only 100 hours of anatomy and physiology and 400 hours of other subjects.

f. A school's curriculum shall be approved if it met the above requirements at the time that the applicant for license graduated.

g. If an approved school alters its curriculum from that submitted and approved by more than 25 percent of total course hours, it must submit those changes to the board for approval prior to implementation.

h. Course content of an approved curriculum must be accurately stated in all promotional materials.

i. Should the board find that an approved curriculum school is not providing the courses and hours it has submitted on its application, the board may revoke, suspend or put on probation approval of the school's curriculum. Revocation will be for a minimum of six consecutive months from the date of determined noncompliance. At the end of the revocation period, the school may reapply for approval of a massage therapy program according to the rules in effect at the time of the reapplication.

j. All approved schools providing massage therapy curriculum which operate within the state of Iowa must update their existing applications to be in compliance with this rule. The board will notify all approved schools providing massage therapy curriculum within four weeks after this rule is adopted. Schools will have four months from the date of notification to submit the necessary documentation to verify compliance.

645—130.6(152C) License renewal.

130.6(1) The biennial license shall be renewed every two years on the anniversary date of the original license. Those originally licensed in the even year will renew in the even year; those licensed in the odd year will renew in the odd year. The continuing education period shall run concurrently with each renewal period.

130.6(2) Licensees who have met continuing education requirements for the biennium and wish to have their licenses renewed shall complete the board-approved renewal form and the board-approved continuing education report and return them to professional licensure, department of public health.

130.6(3) Late filing. Licensees who fail to submit the application for renewal and complete and appropriately document continuing education hours by their anniversary date of each renewal biennium shall be required to pay a late filing fee and may be subject to an audit of their continuing education report.

130.6(4) Licensees who have not fulfilled the requirements for license renewal or placed the license on inactive status by 30 days after their anniversary date of the licensure biennium will have a lapsed license and shall not engage in the practice of massage therapy.

130.6(5) Rescinded IAB 12/4/96, effective 1/8/97.

645—130.7(152C) License fees. All fees are nonrefundable.

130.7(1) Rescinded IAB 12/4/96, effective 1/8/97.

130.7(2) The fee for a temporary reciprocal license issued for up to one year is \$100.

130.7(3) Rescinded IAB 12/4/96, effective 1/8/97.

130.7(4) The fee for a license to practice massage therapy issued on the basis of examination or endorsement is \$100.

130.7(5) The renewal fee of a license to practice for a biennial period is \$100.

130.7(6) Penalty fee for failure to complete and return the renewal application is \$25.

130.7(7) Penalty fee for failure to complete the required continuing education is \$25. Failure to complete and return the continuing education report is \$25.

130.7(8) Reinstatement fee is \$25.

130.7(9) Fee for certified statement that a licensee is licensed in Iowa is \$10.

130.7(10) Fee for failure to report, change of address within 30 days is \$10.

130.7(11) Fee for failure to report, in writing, change of name within 30 days is \$10.

130.7(12) Fee for a returned check is \$15.

645—130.8(152C) Transition provisions. Prior to July 1, 2002, an applicant shall complete the following for:

130.8(1) *Initial licensure.*

- a. Be required to pass the board-approved national certification examination;
- b. Pay the applicable licensing fee; and
- c. Not be required to meet the completion of curriculum of massage therapy requirements contained in Iowa Code section 152C.3, subsection 1, paragraph "a."

130.8(2) *Lapsed license.*

a. Applicants with a license that has lapsed prior to July 1, 2000, who apply for reinstatement prior to July 1, 2002, shall be required to complete a reinstatement application and pay a renewal fee and reinstatement fee pursuant to Iowa Code section 147.11 and section 147.80, subsection 26. Penalty fees otherwise incurred pursuant to Iowa Code section 147.10, and continuing education requirements applicable to the period prior to licensure reinstatement, shall be waived by the board; or

b. Applicants with a license that has lapsed prior to July 1, 2000, who do not apply for reinstatement prior to July 1, 2002, shall be required to apply for reinstatement in accordance with lapsed license reinstatement provisions established by rule 645—132.6(152C).

645—130.9(152C) Reinstatement of lapsed licenses. Rescinded IAB 10/4/00, effective 11/8/00.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 152C.

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